

## CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A food container comprising:

an outer container having a bottom and a continuous wall extending up to a rim;

an outer lid adapted to seal an interior of said outer container from an exterior thereof;

an inner container comprising a bottom and a continuous wall extending up from said bottom to a rim, one of said bottom and said wall being perforated, said inner container further comprising a plurality of spacing tabs extending away from an outer surface of said continuous wall, said spacing tabs engaging an interior surface of said wall of the outer container thereby providing a gap between the inner container and said outer container; and

an inner perforated lid adapted to engage said rim of said inner container.

2. The food container according to claim 1, wherein said spacing tabs are vertically oriented.

3. The food container according to claim 2 wherein said spacing tabs extend up to maintain said inner container a predetermined distance below said outer lid during use.

4. The food container of claim 1 wherein said spacing tabs extend up to maintain said inner container a predetermined distance below said outer lid during use and said spacing tabs extend down to maintain a predetermined bottom gap between said bottom of said inner container and said bottom of said outer container.

5. The food container of claim 4 wherein said gap between said inner container and said outer container is approximately the same on all sides, including above and below said inner container.

6. The food container of claim 5 wherein said gap is about 1 1/4 inches.

7. The food container of claim 1 wherein said spacing tabs are formed integrally with said inner container.

8. The food container of claim 1 wherein said inner container is generally cuboid and each of said spacing tabs extends out from each of four corners formed by said continuous wall of said inner container, said tabs being shaped so that, when said inner container is placed within said outer container, a distal end of each spacing tab engages said interior surface of said outer container at a corresponding corner of said outer container.

9. The food container of claim 1 wherein said inner container is perforated on all sides, including said bottom.

10. A perforated food container, comprising:

a container having a generally rectangular bottom and four continuous sides extending up from said bottom to a rim, said container being perforated on at least one of said sides and bottom;

a perforated lid engageable with said rim for retaining food in said container, and

a plurality of spacing tabs extending out from said sides, said spacing tabs in all directions to provide a gap between said container and any larger container within which it is placed.

11. The perforated container of claim 10 wherein said spacing tabs extend out from each of four corners formed by said four sides at about a 45° angle to each of said sides.

12. The perforated container of claim 10 wherein said gap is about 1 1/4 inches.